

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 ISO-00 FEA-01 ERDA-05 AID-05 CEA-01

CIAE-00 CIEP-01 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-07 FPC-01 H-02

INR-07 INT-05 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-03 SAM-01

OES-03 SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00 FRB-03 /093 W

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R 271410Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9699

INFO AMEMBASSY BERN

AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

USMISSION OECD PARIS

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L LONDON 04754

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG, UK

SUBJECT: BRITISH ATTITUDES TOWARD REPRESENTATION AT

PRODUCER/CONSUMER CONFERENCE

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1. FENN (FCO, ENERGY) NOTED THAT PROBLEM OF UK REPRES-

TATION HAD BEEN RESOLVED FOR APRIL 7 ORENCOM BUT WOULD COME TO FORE AGAIN IN CONTEXT OF SUBSTANTIVE CONFERENCE. HE SAID ON BASIS OF RECENT IEA AND OPEC DISCUSSIONS IN ALGIERS, NOBODY SUPPOSES FULL MEETING CAN TAKE PLACE ON SAME BASIS AS PREPCOM.

2. FENN REITERATED HIGH-LEVEL HMG VIEW IS THAT IT CANNOT ACCEPT SUBSTANTIVE CONFERENCE TAKING PLACE WITHOUT UK REPRESENTATION. LEAVING OPEN QUESTION OF EC PRESENCE, HE OBSERVED NOT ALL EC MEMBER STATES WOULD NECESSARILY SEEK INDIVIDUAL REPRESENTATION. AS RESTATED BY FENN, BASIS FOR UK CLAIM FOR SEPARATE REPRESENTATION IS ITS STATUS AS A MAJOR OIL CONSUMER AND, PROSPECTIVELY, MAJOR OIL PRODUCER; HOME COUNTRY OF ONE AND ONE HALF INTERNATIONAL OIL COMPANIES (BP AND SHELL); AND MAJOR INTERNATIONAL TRADING NATION. HE SAID BRITISH ARE FLEXIBLE AS REGARDS SPECIFIC REPRESENTATION FORMULA.

3. IN DISCUSSING VARIOUS REPRESENTATION FORMULAE PROPOSED, FENN SAID HE PERSONALLY FAVORED ADOPTION OF ALGERIAN BILATERAL APPROACH WHICH WOULD GAIN PARITY FOR INDUSTRIALIZED CONSUMERS AS ONE GROUP WITH PRODUCERS/ DEVELOPING STATES CONSTITUTING ANOTHER GROUP. FENN REALIZED THIS BILATERAL APPROACH MIGHT INCUR SOME PSYCHOLOGICAL DISADVANTAGE TO INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES AS DISTINCT FROM TRILATERAL (CONSUMER, PRODUCER, LDC) APPROACH BUT WAS IMPRESSED BY ARGUMENT IEA COUNTRIES SHOULD NOT ACCEPT POSITION OF PERMANENT MINORITY. LIKELIHOOD OF DEVELOPING STATES LINING UP WITH PRODUCERS ON ESSENTIALLY ALL IMPORTANT SUBJECTS WOULD ENSURE SUCH A RESULT IF TRILATERAL FORMULA ADOPTED FOR FULL CONFERENCE.

RICHARDSON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ENERGY, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS, EXPORTERS, IMPORTERS, MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 27 MAR 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975LONDON04754
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750108-0279
From: LONDON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750310/aaaaaisd.tel
Line Count: 94
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 09 APR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <09 APR 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <14 APR 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: BRITISH ATTITUDES TOWARD REPRESENTATION AT PRODUCER/CONSUMER CONFERENCE
TAGS: ENRG, UK
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006